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DATE: July 25, 2000

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

PAGES: 2

(No. of pages including this cover sheet)

TO: Mark Rosen
(ATTORNEY, AGENT OR FIRM)

08/823980

(ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER OR APPLICATION NUMBER)

215-568-3439

(FAX/TELECOPIER NUMBER)

FROM: Ron Schwadron, Ph.D., Primary Examiner,

ART UNIT 1644

GROUP 1600 FAX NUMBERS: (703)308-4242 OR (703)305-3014 for FORMAL communications only.

EXAMINER'S OFFICE PHONE NUMBER: (703)308-4680

DOCKET NO.: CHIR-0108

938.007



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CHICENTER 1600/2900

In Re Application of:

Weiner et al.

Serial No.: 08/823,980

Group Art Unit: 1644

Filing Date: March 25, 1997

Examiner: R. Schwadron

For: CONSERVED MOTIF OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS E2/NS1

DATE OF DEPOSIT: January 3, 2001

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, DC 20231.

TYPED NAME: Doreen Yatko Trujillo REGISTRATION NO.: 35,719

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington DC 20231

Sir:

COMMUNICATION REGARDING OFFICIAL ACTION DATED JULY 3, 2000

On June 21, 2000, Applicants filed a Preliminary Amendment subsequent to the Continued Prosecution Application filed April 6, 2000. An Official Action was issued on July 3, 2000 which did not refer to or reflect entry of Applicants' Preliminary Amendment. Applicants' Attorney conducted a telephonic interview with Examiner Schwadron on July 25, 2000 and requested entry of the Preliminary Amendment. The Examiner indicated that a new Official Action would be sent in response to Applicants' Preliminary Amendment and that

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938.007

the response period would be reset to the mailing date of the new Official Action. The Examiner memorialized this interview in an Interview Summary (copy enclosed) faxed to Applicants' Attorney on July 25, 2000. To date, however, Applicants have not received a new Official Action as indicated in the Interview Summary.

Nevertheless, pursuant to the enclosed Interview Summary, Applicants believe the outstanding Official Action dated July 3, 2000 to be withdrawn and no response to be due. As such, Applicants' also believe that no extension of time is necessary. To the extent this belief is in error, Applicants hereby petition for any necessary extension of time and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any extension fees or fee otherwise deemed necessary to Deposit Account No. 23-3050.

Date: January 3, 2001

Doreen Yatko Trujillo

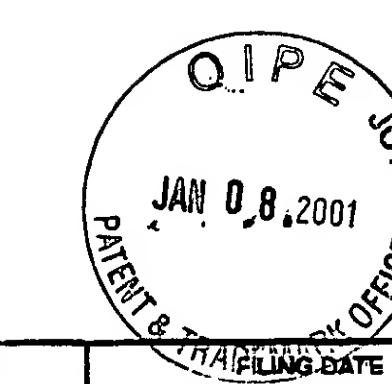
Registration No. 35, 719

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APPLICATION NUMBER

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

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